Act, 1969, permission of the MRTP Commission is not required for issue of advertisement. However, the Commission has the power to enquire into any unfair trade practices. In the present case, the Commission has taken cognizance of the advertisement in question and has considered it to be attracting Section 36A(3)(b) of the MRTP Act, 1969. Accordingly, the Commission in accordance with Regulation 19(2)(c) of the MRTP Commission Regulations, 1974, has ordered investigation on 24.4.1990 into the matter by the Director General (Investigation & Registration). The MRTP Commission being a quasi-judicial body is empowered te take necessary action in the matter under provisions of the MRTP Act.

Power Projects of Andhra Pradesh pending Central Clearance

*94. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state;

(a) how many power project schemes of Andhra Pradesh are pending central clearance; and

(b) whether the Central Government propose to clear these projects expeditiously in view of power situation in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House [See appendix CLIX, Annexure as 10]

Legislation to Curb smoking

*95. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI;

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for enacting a law to curb smoking;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the proposal; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAS-HEED MASOOD): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The main features of the proposed legislation are as follows:—

1. The existing statutory warning on cigarette packets/advertisements/hoarding that 'Cigarette smoking is injurious to health' will be expanded to include one or the-other telling slogans mentioned below:—

'Smoking can lead to Oral Cancer'

'Smoking can cause heart problems'

'Smoking may reduce your life? span'

'Smoking can aggravate respiratory problems'

2. Statutory warning will be prominently displayed on the cigarette packets.

3. Prohibition of advertisements, of cigarettes.

4. Existing rules/regulations to be extended to areas such a-; Government offices, hospitals and health care establishments, educational institutions, official conferences/ meetings, railway stations and airports.

5. Projection of slides depicting harmful effects of cigarette smoking before every show in cinema halls and also on T.V.

6. Ban on smoking in hospitals and health institutions, aircrafts.